

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Status

After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 2, 6, 8, 9, and 30-33 are pending in this application, of which claims 2, 8, 9 are independent in form. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-17, and 22-29 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Independent claims 2, 8, 9, are amended herein. New dependent claims 30-33 are added herein. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8-12, 14, 15, 17, and 24-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, allegedly as being failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the claims and the specification in the stated rejection and respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 10-15, and 24-29 are canceled herein, thereby rendering their rejection moot. Claims 2, 8, and 9 are amended herein to remove recitations of “audible.” Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-17 and 22-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,271,841 to Tsujimoto (“Tsujimoto”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,172 to Kubota et al. (“Kubota”). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the

characterization of the claims and prior art in the stated rejection and respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-17, and 22-29 are canceled herein, thereby rendering their rejection moot. Applicant respectfully requests the rejections as to these claims be withdrawn.

Independent claims 2, 8 and 9 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in the specification as filed at page 24, line 16 o page 25, line 20. No new matter is introduced.

Amended independent claim 2 is directed to a receiving apparatus, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus, comprising: receiving means for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus; voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as a voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; determining means, when said receiving means receives fresh news information, for determining degree of importance of the content of the fresh new information; and display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said voice, wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially if said determining means determines the degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information which has already been received.

The Examiner previously asserted that Kubota teaches outputting information preferentially according to the degree of importance of the information. However, Applicant

respectfully asserts that neither Kubota nor Tsujimoto teach or suggest determining the degree of importance, when the fresh news information is received.

Thus, neither Kubota nor Tsujimoto, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, *inter alia*, a receiving apparatus that includes a receiving means, a voice output means, and a “determining means, when said receiving means receives fresh news information, for determining degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information” wherein “said voice output means outputs the text content of the fresh news information as a voice preferentially if said determining means determines the degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information which has already been received, as required by amended independent claim 2. Amended independent claims 8 and 9 are believed to define patentable subject matter for similar reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is neither taught nor suggested by, and therefore is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of, Tsujimoto or Kubota, alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection applied to claims 2, 6, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsujimoto in view of Kubota.

New claims 30-33

New claims 30-33 have been added, each dependent, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 2 which Applicant believes to be patentable as set forth above. Thus claims 30-33 are thus believed to define patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons as set forth for claim 2.

Dependent Claims

Applicant has not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicant submits that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as to why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed supra, the dependent claims, which include new claims 30-33, are also allowable. Applicant however, reserves the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below should a telephone conference be useful or necessary.

AUTHORIZATION

While no fees or extensions of time are believed due, in the event that an extension of time is required to render this filing timely, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4775.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: May 5, 2006

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